

SUBJECT: International Communist Coordination--Exchange of Permanent Delegates between CPs

1. The French Communist Party (PCF) has made known that it has exchanged permanent delegates with CP Italy. Georges Thevenin, a member of the Central Committee of the PCF, has been posted to the Central Committee of the PCI, while "comrade Scalia" has been posted to the PCF. The latter is probably Umberto Scalia, a Central Committee member and former secretary of the Pescara Party organization.

2. This development was announced at a PCF Central Committee meeting by Raymond Guyot, a member of the Politburo who has been concerning himself with inter-CP relations. Guyot's report was carried in L'Humanite for 16 February 1957.

3. Guyot reviewed other measures that had been taken by the PCF to strengthen its ties with other CPs, including its discussions with CPSU, the PZPR in Poland, the Czech CP; the "Duclos letter" of 21 January 1957 to the CPUSA; the Party's plan to send delegations to forthcoming congresses of CP Austria and CP Norway, and to hold a meeting with Yugoslav Communists about 20 March. He said that relations with the Spanish and West German CPs were "excellent."

4. Guyot also said that the work of the CC "Section de Politique Exterieur" (i.e., the Party's international department) must be strengthened.

5. The PCF, according to Guyot, favors the development of bilateral ties between CPs, as well as "meetings of several parties on a subject of common interest", but it believes that such measures "in the long run, cannot be sufficient." "Several fraternal parties have also raised questions on this point." Although his remarks were ambiguous, Guyot may be referring here to hints (e.g., by the Austrian and East German Parties) favoring a new centralized international organization of CPs. The PCF would probably also favor such an organization but recognizes that other CPs (e.g., CP Italy) continue to oppose it. Since no firm agreement on a mutually acceptable pattern of coordination has been reached, the PCF is employing measures such as those described by Guyot, to strengthen its own ties.

6. Additional information available to you on this subject would be greatly appreciated.

7. In particular, it will be interesting to see whether the exchange of permanent delegates between CPs is further extended, e.g., between the

French CP on the one hand and the Belgian and Netherlands CPs on the other; between Scandinavian CPs; between Latin American CPs; etc. Such a pattern, if extended, could strengthen the influence of "guide" CPs on a regional bases.

8. In our opinion, discussions within individual CPs on this subject, as well as on the general question of international coordination, warrant close and continuing attention.